

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-82 are pending in the application. Claims 1-23 and 49-60 are allowed. Claims 24, 33-37, 45-48, and 61-82 are rejected. Claims 25-32 and 38-44 are objected to.

Objection to the Drawing

The Examiner objects to the drawing stating that the drawing does not include a “FIGURE 8” as disclosed at page 14, line 3. Applicant notes that the specification at page 11, line 16 states “Turning to FIGURE 8”. This phrase was merely intended to be a transitional phrase to collectively refer to FIGURES 8A through 8D. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the specification at page 14, lines 3 to replace “Turning to FIGURE 8” with -- Turning to FIGURES 8A, 8B, 8C and 8D--. The amendment is supported by the specification, because FIGURES 8A through 8D are described in the BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING section at page 7. No new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment to the specification addresses the Examiner’s objection and amendment of the drawing is not required. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection.

Objection to the Disclosure

The Examiner states that continuing data on page 1 regarding the related application (U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/324241) must be updated. The related application is still currently pending (i.e., it has not been abandoned and it has not yet issued). Accordingly, Applicant has not amended the data on page 1 regarding the application.

The Examiner objects to the specification for lacking an explicit reference to the reference legends: 101 of FIGURE 1; 50 and 53 of FIGURE 5; 608 of FIGURE 6; 701 of FIGURE 7B; and 702 of FIGURE 7C.

Applicant has amended page 8, line 10 to replace “102, 103, and 104” with --101, 102, 103, and 104--.

Applicant has amended page 11, line 18 to include --system 50 of-- before “FIGURE 5”.

Applicant has amended page 12, line 1 by replacing “display 54” with --display 53--.

Applicant has amended page 11, line 28 - page 12, line 1 by replacing “is okay to go,” with --is okay to go 54,--.

Applicant has further amended page 11, line 28 by replacing “is not valid, via display 55” with --is not valid 55, via display 53--.

Applicant has amended page 13, line 7 to replace “central processor” with --central processor 608--.

Applicant has amended page 13, line 27 to replace “FIGURE 7B” with --Blank stock 701 of FIGURE 7B--.

Applicant has amended page 13, line 27 to replace “FIGURE 7C” with --blank stock 702 of FIGURE 7C--.

The Examiner objects to the specification for failing to explicitly reference how the program proceeds after boxes 605, 609, and 610 of FIGURE 6.

Applicant has amended page 13, line 1 to include the sentence --If the key is not valid, the transaction is stopped by proceeding to box 55.-- after “if it is a valid key.”.

Applicant has amended page 13, line 6 to include the sentences --If receipt being presented is not within the expected parameters, the transaction is stopped by proceeding to box 55. If receipt being presented is within the expected parameters, the transaction continues to box 610.-- after “this receipt box 609.”

Applicant has amended page 13, line 11 to include the sentences --If the bearer may board, the transaction proceeds to box 54. If not, the transaction is stopped via box 55-- after “a prior arranged commercial transaction.”

The Examiner objects to the specification noting that, on page 8, lines 9-10, “102, 103, 104,” should be --101, 102, 103, and 104--. As seen above, Applicant has made the amendment suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner further notes that “16” at page 8, line 16 should be --12--. Applicant has made the amendment suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner notes that “Turning to FIGURE 8” on page 14, line 3 should be -- Turning to FIGURES 8A, 8B, 8C and 8D--. As noted above, Applicant has made the amendment as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner notes that “FIGURES 8A and 8B” on page 14, line 7 should be -- FIGURES 8A, 8B, 8C and 8D--. Applicant has made the amendment as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner further notes that the specification does not reference FIGURES 8C and 8D. Applicant has amended the specification to include reference to FIGURES 8C and 8D (see previous paragraph).

As Applicant has addressed each and every objection presented by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure.

Applicant has also made two other amendments to correct minor typographical errors. Applicant has replaced “21would” with --21 would-- on page 12, line 19. Also, applicant has replaced “indica” with --indicia-- on page 12, line 27.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 24, 33-37, 45-48, and 61-82 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,108,364 to Tanaka et al. (hereinafter Tanaka); U.S. Patent No. 5,432,506 to Chapman (hereinafter Chapman); U.S. Patent No 5,598,447 to Berson (hereinafter Berson); PCT Publication WO 97/14482 (hereinafter Royer); and the

“Dataproducts awarded Industrial Design excellence commendation for ATB printer” article from Business Editors (hereinafter Business Editors).

Claims 24, 33-37, 45-48, and 61-82 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,170,744 to Lee et al. (hereinafter Lee).

Claims 24, 33-37, 45-48, and 61-82 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by European Patent Specification No. EP 0 699 327 B1 (hereinafter Fouracres).

Additionally, the Examiner objects to claims 25-32 and 38-44 as comprising allowable subject matter while being dependent from a rejected independent claim.

Claim 24 has been amended to include the limitation previously set forth in claim 25. Claim 25 has been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 24 is allowable. Claims 26-36 depend from claim 24 and, hence, inherit all limitations of claim 24. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 26-36 are now also allowable.

Claim 37 has been amended to include the limitation previously set forth in claim 38. Claim 38 has been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 37 is allowable. Claims 39-48 depend from claim 37 and, hence, inherit all limitations of claim 37. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 39-48 are now also allowable.

Claims 61-82 have been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 61-82 is now moot.

New Claims

Applicant has added new claims 83-94, including independent claims 83 and 90. Claims 83-94 are supported by the specification. No new matter has been added.

Claim 83 recites, in part:

receiving a unique identifier from a blank stock, wherein said unique identifier comprises an encryption key;...

encrypting said authentication information utilizing said encryption key; and

communicating said encrypted authentication information to be printed on said stock.

Claim 90 recites, in part:

means for receiving a unique identifier from a blank stock, wherein said unique identifier comprises an encryption key;...

means for encrypting said authentication information utilizing said encryption key; and

means for communicating said encrypted authentication information to be printed on said stock.

The Examiner states that the prior art does not teach or suggest "...unique receipt data that includes encrypted validation information and the decryption key used for decrypting validation information where the decryption key is associated with the unique receipt media." Office Action, page 5. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 83 and 90 are allowable for comprising at least the preceding limitations. Claims 81-89 and 91-94 respectively depend from independent claims 83 and 90 and, hence, inherit all limitations of their respective independent claim. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 81-89 and 91-94 are also allowable.

Conclusion

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Version With Markings to Show Changes Made**In the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph as originally filed starting on page 8, line 2 that begins with "Turning now to FIGURE 1," with the following paragraph:

--Turning now to FIGURE 1, form 10 is the original display media which, in one embodiment, can be ticket stock printed with indicia 16 thereon. Indicia portion 16a can be a machine readable portion of the indicia (which can be, for example a Universal Bar Code, an Intermec Corporations' Code 49, or a Laser Light System Inc.'s Code 16K, or any other type of machine readable code) and portion 16b is a human readable portion. Note that for the purposes of this invention the indicia can be entirely machine readable or entirely human readable, if desired. In addition, the human readable portion could be a different form of the indicia, such as bar codes that can be machine readable. In the embodiment, form 10 is divided into sections 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 each separable by perforated lines 101, 102, 103, and 104. These lines can be traditional perforations, or they can be simple folds. In some situations there need not be any perforations or folds.--

Please replace the paragraph as originally filed starting on page 8, line 13 that begins with "As will be seen in FIGURE 2" with the following paragraph:

--As will be seen in FIGURE 2 for an airline ticket portion 13 of ticket stock 10 is printed with the necessary boarding information. In such a situation, section 14 would be the passenger's copy of the boarding pass, section 15 would be the passenger's receipt, and sections 11 and [16] 12 would be the luggage tags that would be preprinted. Thus, the luggage tags can be removed from the printer and ticket stubs 13, 14 and 15 can be separated along the perforation lines. Paper on the backing of the ticket stub area (not shown) can be removed to reveal a portion which has a sticky substance thereon which would allow the tags to be placed in the traditional manner on the luggage to form a loop around the handle.--

Please replace the paragraph as originally filed starting on page 11, line 18 that begins with "Turning now to FIGURE 5," with the following paragraph:

--Turning now to system 50 of FIGURE 5, when the user arrives at the point of utilization, i.e., the boarding gate of the airline, bus station, train station, or at the exit gate of the rental car agency, or at the entrance to the theater (so that the preprinted commercial transaction is about to be authenticated and the services actually rendered based upon a preestablished commercial transaction between the parties) (or in the case of a stamp, when the mail piece on which the stamp is placed arrives at a mail distribution center), reader 51 reads the information that is on the preprinted ticket (stamp or money order form) including the original indicia 16a and the new indicia 21. Also, if a security image which had been preestablished on the form is expected, that security image will be checked via box 602 (FIGURE 6). This information is provided to processor 52 which then extracts the key from the data contained in indicia 16 for decoding the data in indicia 21, thereby enabling a determination that the passenger is [okay to go] okay to go 54, via [display 54] display 53, or that the ticket is not valid 55, via display 53 [55]. Processor 52 can transmit and receive information via communication control 56 overlink 501 to communication control 41 in FIGURE 4. The purpose of this link can be two fold if desired. 1) When the initial transaction is consummated, processor 42 can operate to transmit the information via link 501 to processor 52 and its database (not shown) indicating that certain information has been printed on various tickets. This would serve as a further backup to the decision process at the time of offering of the services since the indicia that has been printed is expected at that period of time from the information given at the time of the booking. For example, seat information and other information including information pertaining to the printed indicia 21 can be communicated to processor 52 so that when printed indicia 21 is presented, processor 52 can utilize its intelligence to determine the validity of the printed indicia to further check that copies are not made and that the services are not given to the wrong person or to many people utilizing the same numbers.--

Please replace the paragraph as originally filed starting on page 12, line 14 that begins with "This system cuts down" with the following paragraph:

--This system cuts down on fraudulent operations and even if an unscrupulous operator were to make copies of a printed ticket, only one such ticket could be processed at processor 52 because the second one would block since it would no longer be valid for transport or for the rendition of services. Thus, the user of the ticket stock would be in no different position than if the user were to obtain a ticket and have somebody steal the ticket and/or copy the ticket, since control indicia [21would] 21 would only have been printed upon the consummation of a commercial transaction, which implies that a means of payment had been agreed upon between the parties.--

Please replace the paragraph as originally filed starting on page 12, line 22 that begins with "Turning now to FIGURE 6," with the following paragraph:

--Turning now to FIGURE 6, a simple flow chart is shown to show the operation just described and box 601 of the ticket is read and box 602 determines if the format of the entire ticket including indicia 16a and 21 is accurate and proper. In this respect there can be, if desired, interaction between information at the local service rendering position and the central data base box 604. If the format is wrong, the transaction is stopped via box 602. If the format is proper, then the original [indica] indicia is read box 603 to determine the key which would be used to decode indicia 21 prior to such utilization of the key. The key is checked via box 605 to determine if it is a valid key. If the key is not valid, the transaction is stopped by proceeding to box 55. Again this validity check can be done in cooperation with information received from the central data base, if desired, via box 604. If it is a valid key, then the key is used to decode the information from the printed [indica] indicia box 606 which provides information to processor 607 which verifies the authenticity of the data on the remainder of the ticket and determines (optional) if the parameters (time, date, sequence, etc.) are correct for the passenger of this receipt box 609. If receipt being presented is not within the expected parameters, the transaction is stopped by proceeding to box 55. If receipt being presented is within the expected parameters, the transaction continues to box 610. Again this information can be used to update the [central processor] central processor 608 if desired to

maintain central control. Box 610 controls whether the bearer may board or enter the theater or remove a car from the lot or any other commercial transaction controlled by the ticket or other display utilized at the time of the actual rendering of the service or the obtaining of the goods where the goods or services have been paid for in a prior arranged commercial transaction. If the bearer may board, the transaction proceeds to box 54. If not, the transaction is stopped via box 55.--

Please replace the paragraph as originally filed starting on page 13, line 22 that begins with "FIGURE 7A shows" with the following paragraph:

--FIGURE 7A shows blank stock 70 which has been divided into three sections 71, 72, 73 each having printed thereon an indicia 16, which has a machine readable part and a human readable part. Note that the last two digits in our example 02, 07 and 08 are individual to each form with respect to sections 71, 72 and 73 and need not be in sequential order. These individual last digits could signify the actual sheet number of a form 70 or the individual section number. Blank stock 701 of FIGURE 7B has three more sections 74, 75, 76 and blank stock of FIGURE 7C has an additional two sections 77, 78. These sections could all be part of one long roll of forms or could be different form sheets with different numbers of blanks thereon.--

Please replace the paragraph as originally filed starting on page 14, line 3 that begins with "Turning now to FIGURE 8," with the following paragraph:

--Turning to [FIGURE 8] FIGURES 8A, 8B, 8C and 8D, a user having a sheet of blank form 70 inserted in the user's printer may order a series of tickets for different sporting events, theaters, lotteries and the like. The user upon connection to a common server which serves several different such sporting events may order and pay for the tickets which will be printed as discussed above. These are shown in [FIGURES 8A and 8B] FIGURES 8A, 8B, 8C and 8D.--